

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-16. (Cancelled).

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 15,~~ A method of modulating a DWF4 polypeptide comprising:

(a) providing a host cell, wherein said host cell comprises a recombinant vector, said recombinant vector comprising:

(i) an isolated *dwf4* polynucleotide, wherein said isolated *dwf4* polynucleotide comprises a sequence having at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:1, and complements and reverse complements thereof; and

(ii) a control element operably linked to said isolated *dwf4* polynucleotide, whereby a coding sequence within said isolated *dwf4* polynucleotide can be transcribed and translated in said host cell; and

(b) culturing said host cell under conditions whereby said isolated *dwf4* polynucleotide is transcribed, wherein expression of *dwf4* is inhibited.

18.-35. (Cancelled).

36. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 28,~~ A method for producing a transgenic plant having an altered phenotype relative to a corresponding wild-type plant comprising:

introducing an isolated *dwf4* polynucleotide into a plant cell, wherein said isolated *dwf4* polynucleotide comprises a sequence having at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:1, and complements and reverse complements thereof; and

producing a transgenic plant from said plant cell, said transgenic plant having an altered phenotype relative to the wild-type plant, wherein the isolated *dwf4* polynucleotide inhibits expression of *dwf4*.

37. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 28,~~A method for producing a transgenic plant having an altered phenotype relative to a corresponding wild-type plant comprising:

introducing first and second isolated *dwf4* polynucleotides into a plant cell, wherein said first and second isolated *dwf4* polynucleotides independently comprise a sequence having at least 50% identity to SEQ ID NO:1, and complements and reverse complements thereof; said first and second isolated *dwf4* polynucleotides operably linked to at least first and second tissue-specific promoters, wherein said first isolated *dwf4* polynucleotide is overexpressed and wherein said second isolated *dwf4* polynucleotide inhibits expression of *dwf4*; and

producing a transgenic plant from said plant cell, said transgenic plant having an altered phenotype relative to the wild-type plant wherein at least first and second polynucleotides are introduced into the plant cell,

38.-57. (Cancelled).